

REMARKS

Claims 9-16 are presently pending in the application. Claims 9, 15 and 16 are in independent form. No claims are being amended by way of this response. A request for continued examination and a one month extension of time are included with this response. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 9, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Jang* (US 2002/0173316) in view of *Koorapaty* (US 6,289,211). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

The cited art, alone and in combination, fails to teach or suggest the features of “transmitting a sequence in a message sent to the mobile stations...and providing that a connection only be established from a mobile station in the area to a destination called by the mobile station if the mobile station requesting the connection establishment communicates the sequence” as recited in claim 9, and similarly recited in claims 15 and 16.

The present claims are directed to addressing the issues of mobile radio networks in an area hit by a disaster, where the networks are frequently overloaded due to users of numerous mobile stations present in the area trying to make emergency calls. To alleviate such problems, the present claims recite a configuration where a certain sequence is transmitted to certain mobile stations in at least one cell in the area of the disaster, wherein the sequence allows a mobile station to request the establishment of a connection (e.g., a voice connection) to a specified destination address only when the sequence is properly communicated by the mobile station. In other words, the sequence acts like a password in that the transmitter (e.g., base station) only sends the “secret” sequence to certain mobile stations and then requires the same sequence back from any mobile station that wants to establish a connection.

The Office action relies on *Jang* to teach the claimed “transmitting a sequence.” Applicant respectfully disagrees. The “access control messages” taught by *Jang* are “messages [that] specify a subset of mobile terminals which will be prevented from accessing the network. Thus, allowing the remaining terminals to access the network.” (Abstract, lines 3-6; emphasis added). This teaches away from the present invention, which transmits a sequence to mobile stations that is needed by the mobile station to establish a connection.”

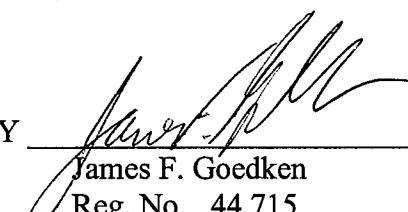
In addition, as stated in the Office action, *Jang* is silent on this feature of establishing a connection (e.g., a voice connection) to a specified destination address only when the sequence is properly communicated by the mobile station (OA pg. 4). *Koorapaty* also fails to teach or suggest this feature. In *Koorapaty*, the message sent to the mobile station is “a control message to ... induce the mobile station to transmit a known bit sequence” (see Abstract; emphasis added). The timing of the known bit sequence transmissions is then measured by several base stations to facilitate determination of the mobile station’s location. The known bit sequence is not the same as the control message, and the known bit sequence is not used to authorize the use of the network by the mobile station. In addition, the access control message sent to the mobile stations in *Jang* is not the same as the known bit sequence in *Koorapaty*.

All other pending claims depend from 9, 15 or 16 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 9-16 are both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned. If any additional fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket no. (119065-64) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY


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